WEDNESDAY, June 16, 2004

10:30 a.m. ISBE Plenary Business Meeting

A. Call Meeting to Order/Roll Call

B. Recognition of the 2004 Teacher of the Year:
Deborah Perryman, Elgin High School

C. Student Advisory Council Presentation

D. Public Participation

E. Approval of Minutes

- May 19, 2004 (pp. 100-118)

D. Discussion and Action Items

- Approval of Additional Supplemental Educational Service Providers (pp. 1-8)
- Approval of Supplemental Educational Services Standard and Technique for Monitoring SES Providers (pp. 9-12)
- Adoption of Illinois Early Learning Standards (pp. 13-14)
- Approval of Institutional Accreditation and Program Approval Recommendations (pp. 15-16)
  - Chicago State University
  - DePaul University
  - Illinois State University
  - Northeastern Illinois University
- Approval of New Program Proposal Recommendations (p. 17)
  - Olivet Nazarene University-School Counselor
  - Olivet Nazarene University-Library and Information Science
  - Western Illinois University-Science
illinois state board of education
100 north first street
springfield, il

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville-School Social Work
Quincy College-School Counselor

• Approval of Recommended Appointments to the State Teacher Certification Board (pp. 18-22)
• Adoption of Academic Early Warning and Academic Watch List Status Determinations (pp. 23-24)
• Approval of Special Education Mediator Contracts (pp. 25-27)
• Approval of Special Education Due Process Hearing Officer Contracts (pp. 28-30)
• Acceptance of Annual Evaluation of Illinois' Due Process Procedures (pp. 31-32)
• Authorization of Rules for Initial Review-Part 227 (Gifted Education-Repealer); Part 230 (Summer School for Gifted and Remedial Education); and Part 525 (Regional Offices of Education and Intermediate Services) (pp. 33-53)
• Authorization of Rules for Initial Review-Part 252 (Driver Education) (pp. 54-59)
• Authorization of Rules for Initial Review-Part 1300 (Americans with Disabilities Act Grievance Procedure) (pp. 60-65)
• Approval of the Intergovernmental Agreement between ISBE and East St. Louis School District #189 Board of Education (pp. 66-84)
• Approval of Dissolution of East St. Louis School District #189 Financial Oversight Panel (pp. 66-84)
• Acceptance of ISBE Monthly Reports (pp. 85-99)

G. Announcements and Reports

• Superintendent
  o Recognition of retiring ISBE staff members
  o ISBE Accomplishment Report
  o Recognition of East St. Louis Financial Oversight Panel Members
• Chairman
  o Recognition of former Board member Beverly Turkal
  o Recognition of Illinois Theatre Festival
• Committees
• Members

H. Other Information

• Monthly Status Report on Rulemaking(pp. 119-120)

I. Closed Session

J. Adjourn

*All State Board of Education meetings listed on this agenda will be accessible to persons with disabilities. Persons planning to attend who need special accommodations should contact the Board office no later than the date prior to the meeting.

Contact the Superintendent's office at the State Board of Education, 100 North First Street, Springfield, Illinois 62777-0001.

Phone: 217-782-2221
TTY/TDD: 217-782-1900
Fax: 217-785-3972

Illinois State Board of Education
100 North First Street, Springfield, IL
The Chair, Dr. Janet Steiner, called the June 16, 2004 meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. She then requested that the roll be called. A quorum was present.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**
- Richard Sandsmark
- Dean Clark
- Ronald Gidwitz
- Joyce Karon
- Gregory Kazarian
- Janet Steiner

Dr. Steiner stated that the meeting would be a one day meeting in which the Board would discuss and take action on the presented agenda items.

Chair Steiner then announced that the State Board was pleased to welcome the 2004 Teacher of the Year: Ms. Deborah Perryman. Dr. Steiner introduced Ms. Perryman as a Biology and Environmental Science teacher at Elgin High School. She stated that the scope of Ms. Perryman’s Environmental Sciences and Biology class at Elgin High School has reached well beyond the classroom and has impacted the entire community of Elgin during her 12 years of service to the district and its children.

Ms. Perryman thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve as the 2004 Teacher of the Year. She then briefly shared her passion for teaching the biological science to her high school students. She stated that while she will enjoy traveling Illinois to give speeches about the importance of environmental education, she will miss being in the classroom with her students.

Dr. Schiller and the Board thanked Ms. Perryman for agreeing to serve as the 2004 Teacher of the Year and wished her well in all of her endeavors.

Ms. Perryman will represent Illinois in the National
Teacher of the Year program sponsored by the Council of Chief State School Officers and Scholastic, Inc. in the spring of 2005.

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<th>Recognition of Retiring Staff Members</th>
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<td>Dr. Schiller then announced that he and the Board would like to recognize several staff members for their many years of service and dedication to ISBE. He recognized Lynne Curry, Gail Lieberman, Lugene Finley, and Lee Patton by reading a resolution on their behalf. (Please see the resolutions below.) The Superintendent also gave special recognition to Mary Anne Graham who served as the Division Administrator for Student Assessment.</td>
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The following resolution was read on Lynne Curry’s behalf:

WHEREAS, Lynne Haeffele Curry began serving in the education field as a classroom science teacher at Bloomington High School where she taught for 13 years; and

WHEREAS, Lynne also served as science department chairperson at Bloomington High School and taught teacher education classes at Illinois State University; and

WHEREAS, in 1985, Lynne was selected to represent Illinois in the Teacher in Space competition; and

WHEREAS, in 1988, she was among the first group of teachers and administrators to receive the Illinois Distinguished Educator/Milken Foundation Award; and

WHEREAS, Lynne was a finalist for Illinois Teacher of the Year in 1989; and

WHEREAS, Lynne joined the Illinois State Board of Education in 1990 as the supervisor of the Center on Scientific Literacy; and

WHEREAS, she assisted in the establishment of the ISBE’s Center for Educational Technology in 1994; and

WHEREAS, in 1995, Lynne became the Division Administrator for Strategic Planning and Budget Management and was the project manager for the Illinois Academic Standards Project resulting in the adoption of the Illinois Learning Standards in 1997; and

WHEREAS, she became the Chief Deputy Superintendent in the fall of 2000; and

WHEREAS, after serving as the Chief Deputy Superintendent and up until the time of her retirement, Lynne served as the director for the Planning and Performance Center contributing to the overseeing of the following eight divisions: Accountability, Assessment, Career Development & Preparation, Curriculum and Instruction, Data Analysis and Progress Reporting, English Language Learning, Early Childhood Education, and System of Support; and

WHEREAS, during her time at ISBE, Lynne was involved in or supervised just about every aspect of policy and curriculum using her knowledge, analytical thinking skills, ability to extrapolate and see the big picture, and resourcefulness to guide the successful completion of many ISBE program initiatives; and

WHEREAS, Lynne was always making a diagram or “picture” to illustrate policy or process, e.g. the System of Support “quadrants”; and

WHEREAS, Lynne made a long commute daily from Leroy, spending many hours and sometimes days away from her two beautiful and intelligent daughters; and

WHEREAS, Lynne was described by her colleagues as having a great sense of humor and a great passion for reading, karaoke, and horseback riding;

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Illinois State Board of Education and the State
Superintendent of Education extend its grateful appreciation to Lynne for her 14 years of dedication to the agency and the children of Illinois and wish Lynne many more years of happiness and success.

The following resolution was read on Gail Lieberman’s behalf:

WHEREAS, Gail began her service to children teaching students with visual impairments and multiple disabilities throughout Proviso Township at the Proviso Area for Exceptional Children; and

WHEREAS, Gail then decided to continue her service to children by joining the State Board of Education in 1971 (known as the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction at that time) as a Consultant for Visually Impaired Students in the Department for Exceptional Children; and

WHEREAS, during the 1970s at the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, Gail also served as an Educational Specialist and a Coordinator of Services for Deaf and Blind Students for the Department of Exceptional Children; and

WHEREAS, once the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction was formally changed to the Illinois State Board of Education, Gail continued to offer a great wealth of expertise and experience from her training in special education and educational administration by serving in a variety of capacities at the State Board such as: Assistant to the Executive Deputy Superintendent, Manager of Program Approval for the Department of Specialized Educational Services, Program Administration for the Department of Special Educational Services, Programs for Exceptional Children for the Department of Specialized Educational Services; and Assistant Manager for Programs for Exceptional Children in the Department of Specialized Educational Services; and

WHEREAS, Gail left the State Board from 1985-1989 to work for Governor James R. Thompson as the Assistant to the Governor for Education; and

WHEREAS, upon her return from the Governor’s Office, joined the Illinois State Board as the Assistant to the Superintendent in the Department of Special Education from 1989-1995; and

WHEREAS, Gail was president of the National Association of State Directors of Special Education from 1994 to 1995; and

WHEREAS, Gail was recognized for her untiring work and dedication to the Special Education community by many organizations, some of which include: the Illinois State Advisory Council on the Education of Students with Disabilities, the Illinois Alliance of Administrators of Special Education, and the Special Education Leadership Academy; and

WHEREAS, Gail also responsibly and effectively took on the following roles in the agency from 1995 until the time of her retirement, sometimes serving in more than one role at a time: Federal Liaison; ISBE No Child Left Behind Point Person (this being the most coveted role of “NCLB Queen”); Acting Director, Standards Aligned Learning; Acting Division Administrator, Curriculum and Instruction; Acting Division Administrator, English Language Learning; Assistant to the Director, Center for Teaching and Learning; Manager, Student & School Progress Center for Teaching and Learning; and Senior Policy Advisor for Charter Schools and Policy, Planning and Resource Management; and

WHEREAS, while continuing to be dedicated to her daily duties at the State Board, Gail edited, authored, and contributed to the publication of over 20 articles, manuals, and reports; and

WHEREAS, Gail was always willing to make herself available to give speeches, seminars, and workshop presentations within and outside of the agency on a variety of pressing educational issues and topics; and

WHEREAS, Gail was an invaluable, resourceful and dedicated employee at the Illinois State Board of Education for twenty-eight years and eight months as she showed an energy and willingness to take on any task and was highly respected for her commitment, attention to detail, broad knowledge base, and work ethic;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Illinois State Board of Education and the State Superintendent of Illinois extend its deepest appreciation to the “NCLB Queen” for all of her hard work, dedication, and leadership at the State Board and wish Gail continued happiness and success in all her future personal and professional endeavors.
The following resolution was read on Lugene Finley's behalf:
WHEREAS, Lugene Finley began his career with the Illinois State Board of Education in February of 1973, and has served the agency faithfully for the last 31 years; and

WHEREAS, Lugene began his service to the agency working in the Communications Department in the following capacities: Assistant Press Secretary, Public Information Specialist, Senior Staff Writer, and Writer 11; and

WHEREAS, in 1995, Lugene left the Communications Department to offer his expertise in technology as the Division Administrator and Acting Associate Superintendent for Learning Technologies where he supervised the administrative operations of information technology as well as the integration of technology and telecommunications into teaching and learning activities; and

WHEREAS, Lugene also served as the Chief Technology Officer and coordinated the application of emerging technologies and telecommunications for the improvement and reform of agency polices, state and federal guidelines and fiscal accountability; and

WHEREAS, Lugene played an important role in providing leadership for Illinois’ first K-12 Technology Plan and the revisions of that plan as well as spearheading the development of a strategic Information Technology Plan for the internal operations of the state education agency; and

WHEREAS, since January of 2002, Lugene has served as the Director of the Information Technology Center by providing leadership in assisting schools in their efforts to improve student and teacher performance through the appropriate use of technology and telecommunications and ensuring the agency’s ability to deliver services in a productive and efficient manner for internal and external clients; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career Lugene has received many awards and experienced many achievements in the communication and technology fields, some of which include: Distinguished Achievement Award from the Education Press Association, Award of Excellence in Education Communications, Distinguished Delegate to the Illinois Regional White House Conference on Library and Information Services, and Participant in the 2001 International Society for Technology in Education Minority Leadership Symposium; and

WHEREAS, Lugene seldom missed a day of work and he often worked late nights and on the weekends while also working for a time period to complete requirements for a degree in Labor Relations by attending school after those long hours; and

WHEREAS, Lugene delivered many speeches at local, regional, and statewide technology conferences and workshops; and

WHEREAS, Lugene was instrumental in initiating, championing and implementing the agency’s three huge technology initiatives – E-Grants (eGMS), Student Information System (SIS), and a statewide data warehouse system; and

WHEREAS, without Lugene’s support and guidance many of the agency's technology initiatives may never have become a reality;

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Illinois State Board of Education and the State Superintendent of Education extend their grateful appreciation to Lugene for his hard work and dedication to the agency as it has been above and beyond “the call of duty” and wish Lugene continued success and fulfillment in his future personal and professional endeavors.

The following resolution was read in Lee Patton’s behalf:
WHEREAS, Lee Patton has worked for the Illinois State Board of Education and its predecessor agencies since 1971, harkening back to the days of the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction; and

WHEREAS, Lee has played the unofficial and often unacknowledged role of agency historian (and we thought she just didn’t care to recycle paper), reminding us of potential pitfalls, as well as successes, from prior agency experiences; and

WHEREAS, Lee has worked in several sites for the agency, beginning at the 1020 South Spring
building in 1971 and migrating in 1975 to the 100 North First Street Taj Mahal known as the “ALZINA BUILDING,” testing the maximum storage space capabilities of every office and environment she has ever encountered; and

WHEREAS, Human Resources tells us that Lee has held many roles within the agency: Assistant Director; working for Fred Rozum, her colleague and friend; Educational Specialist; Administrative Assistant; Assistant Executive Deputy working with Nelson Ashline; Assistant to the State Board of Education (one of many titles while providing board services); Deputy Superintendent for Policy and Board Relations; Director of Policy; Chief Deputy Director of Policy; and as of 2003, Interim Director of Teaching and Leadership (WHOW!); and

WHEREAS, Lee has been a faithful steward of the State Board of Education for many years, beginning to work with a board composed of 17 members in 1983 and ending that state service with a board of 9 members in 2001; and

WHEREAS, in December 1996 the formerly constituted State Board of Education recognized Lee by noting her care, nurturing, inspiration, and extraordinary writing skills, and passed a resolution regarding her exceptional service as Executive Assistant to the Board; and

WHEREAS, Lee has encountered many situations requiring the utmost diplomacy while staffing the board (rookie board members, demanding chairpersons, late-night hearings, board meetings around the state, floods, protests by the bilingual community); and

WHEREAS, Lee has met and conquered numerous challenges, working for nine state superintendents—from Dr. Michael Bakalis to Dr. Robert Schiller, and all formally or informally in between—and professional demands ranging from special education services to board policy to services to the State Teacher Certification Board; and

WHEREAS, Lee has, over time, mentored many agency staff in the fine art of policy studies and policy development, always keeping her eye on the big picture; and

WHEREAS, Lee has spent her very limited free time antiquing and QVC scanning and buying (the term QVC junkie comes to mind); and

WHEREAS, Lee has written policy briefs and board statements at every possible hour of the day and night, not acknowledging weekends or holidays or days off; and appeared to wait until the very very very last minute to produce the required product but always came through with it; and

WHEREAS, Lee enjoyed fun activities such as a picture collection, or one dollar bills from the bank inscribed with “The buck stops here,” or the Thomas Burroughs award, or arranging activities at Chicago board meetings, or writing so many resolutions when board members retired; and

WHEREAS, Lee has worked with the Student Advisory Council on various issues, including safe schools, and has always had the best interests of children and youth, teachers and schools in mind and been dedicated to her profession; and

WHEREAS, Lee has demonstrated her unfailing belief in the merits of an independent, bipartisan board of education that places children first in every issue debated and decided; and

WHEREAS, Lee has demonstrated enthusiasm for every new learning opportunity and policy challenge;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Illinois State Board of Education and the State Superintendent of Education, in May 2004, that they extend their deep and enduring appreciation to Lee Patton for her commitment and dedication to high-quality education for all students in Illinois and wish her health, happiness, and the enjoyment of antiquing in the years ahead.

Student Advisory Council Presentation

The Student Advisory Council presentation was the next item on the agenda. The Chair welcomed the 2003-2004 Student Advisory Council (SAC) Members and requested that they come forward. She announced that the following SAC members were present: Stacie Barton, the council chair; Alex Schwarm; Nathan Taylor; Daniel McFadden;
and Scott Hillpot. Dr. Steiner also recognized Andrew Schwarm, a member of the council last year. She then thanked Marilyn Holt, the council’s advisor for all of her hard work and dedication. Lastly, Dr. Steiner thanked Lee Patton who also worked with the Student Advisory Council for many years.

The council began the presentation by thanking the State Board for their continued support of a Student Advisory Council in the state of Illinois. Then, the students gave a brief report of their activities from the 2003-2004 school year. According to the students, SAC was represented at the School Safety Symposium on April 23, 2004. The event was hosted by the Regional Office of Education #12. SAC members assisted with registration and oversight of the day’s conference sessions. Also in April of 2004 the SAC lobbied with various General Assembly members to help students maintain a connection with Illinois lawmakers.

The council had one recommendation for the State Board to consider. The council stated that they believed that the students of Illinois should be represented by their peers when discussions occur regarding the laws and regulations that shape their educational lives. They stated that in order to continue a forum for the expression of student views, the council would recommend that before July 1, 2004, the ISBE contract with the Regional Office of Education (ROE) #3. The students proclaimed that with this contract the SAC would be able to continue working toward its goals and improving education.

Ronald Gidwitz then inquired as to why the students felt a contract should be entered into with ROE #3. The council members asserted that ROE #3 would provide the assistance needed to lead such a group as theirs as they have experience with coordinating such student groups.

In addition, Mr. Gidwitz inquired as to how much such a contract would cost. Stacie Barton stated that she believed $50,000 was the estimated figure needed to ensure a quality program continues with recruiting and extended services for the students involved.

In closing, the council again thanked the Superintendent and Board for entrusting them with the responsibility of
representing the students of the State of Illinois. The Superintendent and Board members in turn wished the students well and presented them with a framed Certificate of Appreciation for the time served on the SAC.

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<th>Public Participation</th>
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<td>The next item on the agenda was Public Participation. Dr. Steiner requested that the first public participant, Mr. Tom Leonard, come forward to present his issue to the Board.</td>
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<td>Mr. Leonard introduced himself as a Native American and provided information on his tribe origination. He stated he was before the Board to address the matter of racial, cultural, and ethical sensitivity in the schools. Mr. Leonard also stated that he would like the Board to draft a resolution to denounce the use of Native American symbols, tribal names, religious objects, and depictions of tribe people. He requested that the Board also strongly encourage schools currently using tribal names to use another name to represent their schools.</td>
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<th>Laura Arterburn, IFT</th>
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<td>Mr. Leonard proclaimed that witnessing such use of the tribal symbols and names was a psychological detriment to him and his fellow Native American people. According to Mr. Leonard, stereotypical mascots and dances ridicule the Native American people and their beliefs. He asserted that in all the depictions of Native Americans, no depiction is made of a friendly Native American but a vicious one. Mr. Leonard further stated that most school districts have ignored requests to properly portray the Native American and/or receive tribal approval to use symbols or tribal names (especially for the name “Redskins”). In addition, Mr. Leonard stated that he and his Native American people have been threatened with physical violence and chastised when they expressed their concerns to schools and parents.</td>
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<td>Mr. Leonard paralleled the discrimination against the Native Americans to the discrimination the African Americans experienced in the South years ago. He stated that it is up to the State Board to do something about the improper use of tribal names and symbols in the schools across the State of Illinois.</td>
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<td>Dr. Steiner then requested that Laura Arterburn from the International Federation of Teachers (IFT) come forward to speak as the final public participant. When Ms.</td>
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Arterburn came forward she stated that she wanted to briefly thank the State Superintendent and Board for their action with regard to the recommendation of the dissolution of the Financial Oversight Panel in East St. Louis School District #189 and the institution of an Intergovernmental Agreement between ISBE and the district. She stated that the dissolution of the panel was something that needed to be done for some time now and she was grateful that the Superintendent and Board acted in such a way to assist the district in getting “on its own feet.”

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<th>Approval of Minutes</th>
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<td>The Approval of the Minutes was the next item on the agenda. Dr. Steiner requested a motion from a Board member to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2004 meeting. Dean Clark then moved that the Illinois State Board of Education approve the minutes of the May 19, 2004 meeting as published. The motion was seconded by Joyce Karon. The motion passed as all members present voted yes to approve the minutes.</td>
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<th>Discussion and Action Items</th>
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<td>Dr. Steiner then stated that she would request the Superintendent to summarize each item on the agenda, request a motion concerning the agenda item, allow the Board to discuss the item, and then request the Board to take appropriate action on the presented agenda items.</td>
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<th>Approval of Additional Supplemental Educational Service Providers</th>
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<td>The first discussion and action item was the Approval of Additional Supplemental Educational Service Providers. Dr. Schiller proclaimed that monthly he and staff bring to the Board additional supplemental educational service providers for recommended approval who have met the established criteria. He stated that a few months ago the agency contacted a number of different providers around the nation and locally inviting them to provide extended services in Illinois. The Superintendent asserted that approval of the recommended providers would allow the providers to begin to offer services in the upcoming school year.</td>
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Dr. Steiner then requested a motion to approve the recommended providers. Ronald Gidwitz made the following motion:

> Whereas the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 requires that the State Board of Education promote maximum participation of supplemental educational service providers and maintain an updated list of approved providers, I move that the providers
identified on Attachment #2 and the Addendum be approved for addition to the Illinois list of approved supplemental educational service providers.

The motion was seconded by Dean Clark. Dr. Steiner then inquired if any Board member had a question or comment. Joyce Karon stated that she noticed that a significant number of school districts are becoming supplemental educational service providers. She inquired as to what the standard was for schools who were offering services to children. Dr. Schiller responded by saying the school districts have the same standard as the other approved providers. The supplemental educational services must be provided outside the school day, as an extension to the learning happening during the regular school hours.

Ronald Gidwitz requested that the Superintendent explain the variations in costs between the providers. The Superintendent responded affirmatively and also requested Don Full, Division Administrator for the Accountability Division to come forward. Dr. Schiller stated that the agency has seen throughout the course of the year that the providers set their cost to provide services and these costs are negotiated between the provider and the school district or entity receiving the services. Don Full said that it is hard to give a clear answer as to the variation in prices. However, he did state that many of the providers have unique delivery systems, programs that have different lengths, programs that serve different numbers of students at a time, and some providers require equipment whereas others do not. Cheryl Bradley stated that Springfield would be an example of providing a unique delivery system as the district does one-on-one tutoring whereas other districts provide instruction to small groups.

In conclusion, Ms. Karon stated that she was happy to see that the numbers of approved providers continues to grow. Dr. Schiller stated that the agency has worked hard to make more providers available to those schools and children who need the services.

Dr. Steiner then requested a roll call vote to approve the recommended providers. The motion passed as all members present voted yes.
Dr. Steiner stated that next item for discussion and action was the Approval of the Supplemental Educational Services Standard and Technique for Monitoring Supplemental Educational Service providers. Dr. Schiller then requested Don Full explain how the standard and technique was created and how the standard and technique will be used with the providers. Dr. Full stated that the NCLB Act requires states to monitor the providers that have been approved to provide services. In addition, Dr. Full stated that if the provider has not contributed, within two years, to the academic proficiency of those being serviced, the provider’s approval is to be withdrawn.

According to Dr. Full, local school districts that must offer SES are also required by statute to enter into an agreement with a SES provider. In consultation with the school and parent, the agreement must include student achievement goals and a timeline to achieve those goals. Dr. Full asserted that in the event the goals are not reached during the timeframe, then the agreement must have a provision for termination. According to Dr. Full, these requirements, which are both statutes, have been utilized by ISBE to form a standard and technique for monitoring the providers. Dr. Full then stated that the standard was set at 50%. Meaning, that if 50% of the school districts the provider services terminate their agreements, the State Board will terminate its approval of that provider. Dr. Full stated that several school districts and other providers provided feedback on the proposed standard and agreed to the standard. He stated that as a reminder, the providers do not have to assure that those receiving services make AYP. The providers just must contribute to the academic proficiency of the students in their programs.

Ronald Gidwitz and Dean Clark expressed concerns about student outcomes and the 50% Standard for the providers. Dr. Full replied that while the 50% may seem low, districts have a responsibility to make sure their schools and students make AYP. Thus, he asserted that school districts have a responsibility to choose providers they believe will assist in increasing their student outcomes.

Ronald Gidwitz stated that it may be useful to get a grant to find out how to measure the quality of SES providers.
verses the quality of the teachers providing the services. Dr. Schiller replied that the USDoE has done studies on the impact of Choice and SES. However, data will not be available for the next couple of years as the department is trying to figure out how to classify all of the variables involved. Mr. Gidwitz then restated his position that possibly ISBE should look at a grant to conduct such a study. Dr. Schiller said that he would follow-up and make the contact regarding the request.

Joyce Karon stated that she knew that setting a standard is required. However, she said that she hoped that the monies requested are being used wisely and that the services being provided are appropriate for the students served. She stated that students needing additional help need assistance tailored to their own needs. Cheryl Bradley then stated that each provider must set up an individual learning plan for each student. Ms. Karon stated that while she understood each student receives an individualized plan, her concern was whether the students would receive individualized teaching strategies to meet their individual learning needs.

Dr. Full stated that when the standard is approved and implemented, the agency will have a track record of the providers who are offering services to the schools and students. According to Dr. Full, information on the providers will assist school districts in choosing providers who best meet their students’ needs.

As there was no further discussion, Dr. Steiner requested a motion to approve the standard and technique. Ms. Karon thus made the following motion:

Whereas the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 requires the state education agency to develop, implement, and publicly report on standards and techniques for monitoring the quality and effectiveness of the services offered by approved providers, and for withdrawing approval from providers that fail, for two consecutive years, to contribute to increasing the academic proficiency of students served, I move that the standard of 50% and the technique as specified in Attachment 2 be approved.

The motion was seconded by Dean Clark. As there was no further discussion, Dr. Steiner requested a roll call vote. The motion passed as all members present voted
| **Adoption of Illinois Early Learning Standards** | The next item on the agenda was the Adoption of the Illinois Early Learning Standards. Dr. Schiller stated that the Illinois Early Learning Standards were developed by ISBE with the assistance of hundreds of educators. He stated that they were first introduced in draft form in June of 2000. Dr. Schiller asserted that since the draft form of the standards were released, hundreds of educators and parents as well as a wide variety of national, state, and local experts have commented on the standards. The Superintendent thus affirmed that the final draft of the standards is a synthesis of their many views and was being brought to the Board for final approval.

Superintendent Schiller then requested that Kay Henderson, Division Administrator for Early Childhood Education, come forward and introduce her guests. The following persons were introduced by Ms. Henderson:
- Donna Nylander, Naperville
- Susan Busker, Rockford
- Alice Moss, Chicago
- Chris Brady, DeKalb
- Shelby King, ISBE

Ms. Henderson proclaimed that Shelby King was the ISBE point person in the design and rollout of the Early Learning Standards. In addition, she stated that all other individuals present were educational leaders in various school districts across the state. Ms. Henderson went on to say that the Early Learning Standards have evolved over the last three or four years. She then gave a brief history of the development of the Early Learning Standards. According to Ms. Henderson, the Early Learning standards were organized to parallel in content the Illinois Learning standards for K-12 education. She stated that the goal of the standards is to provide teachers and caregivers useful information that is directly needed as part of their daily classroom work. Ms. Henderson proclaimed that as Illinois was one of the first states to have Early Learning Standards, the standards were seized upon nationally and became a model of excellence for other states. As a result, Illinois received several national awards for the standards and its early childhood programs. |

| **yes.** |  |
In conclusion, Ms. Henderson stated that she would like to thank all of the many contributors to the Illinois Early Learning Standards for their thoughtfulness and knowledge in helping to shape the standards.

Dr. Steiner then congratulated Ms. Henderson and the educational contributors to the Illinois Early Learning Standards for such a good job done on behalf of the early childhood students in the state.

Joyce Karon stated that coordinating the standards with the various “early learning reading programs” on district and/or public library systems would be very valuable and a useful tool for schools and students. Ms. Karon affirmed that she would be willing to offer assistance in the development of such a project.

Dr. Steiner then requested a motion to adopt the Illinois Early Learning Standards. Dean Clark moved that the Illinois State Board of Education hereby adopt the Illinois Early Learning Standards for instructional use in Illinois with preschool students as discussed during the June 2004 meeting. These standards will be part of instructional programs serving students in Prekindergarten and Early Childhood Special Education. Ronald Gidwitz seconded the motion. The motion passed as all Board members voted affirmatively.

Dr. Schiller and the Board then presented Certificates of Appreciation to each of the contributing educators who were present.

**Approval of Institutional Accreditation and Programs**

Dr. Steiner then announced that the next item for Board discussion and action was the Approval of Institutional Accreditation and Programs. Dr. Schiller stated that the previous Thursday and Friday State Teacher Certification Board (STCB) members met and recommended Institutional Accreditation and Programs approvals for several institutions. Superintendent Schiller asserted that he conferred with each of the recommendations of the STCB and would recommend that the Board approve each institution’s accreditation status and program(s).

Dr. Steiner then asked for individual motions to approve the accreditation statuses and programs of the universities.
Mr. Gidwitz moved that the Illinois State Board of Education hereby accept the recommendation of the State Teacher Certification Board and assign “continuing accreditation” status to Illinois State University. He further stated that the action was taken in accordance with Section 25.125(j)(1) of the State Board’s administrative rules on certification and authorizes the institutions to conduct programs and recommend candidates for certification by entitlement until the time of the institution’s next scheduled review. The motion was seconded by Dean Clark. The motion passed as all members present voted yes.

Richard Sandsmark then requested that the rest of the institutions be consolidated into one motion as he had to leave the meeting shortly to travel. Dr. Schiller and Dr. Steiner concurred that merging the institutions into one motion would be allowed.

Dean Clark then made the following motion for DePaul University, Chicago State University, and Northeastern University:

I move that the Illinois State Board of Education hereby accept the recommendation of the State Teacher Certification Board and assign “continuing accreditation” status.

This action is taken in accordance with Section 25.125(j)(1) of the State Board’s administrative rules on certification and authorizes the institutions to conduct programs and recommend candidates for certification by entitlement until the time of the institution’s next scheduled review.

The motion was seconded by Joyce Karon. All members present voted yes during the roll call vote. Therefore, the motion passed.

Dr. Schiller then stated that the institutional programs could also be approved in one motion. Thus, Mr. Gidwitz made the following motion:

I move that the Illinois State Board of Education hereby accept the recommendations of the State Teacher Certification Board and award continuing approval to the programs at Chicago State University, DePaul University, Illinois State University, and Northeastern University as identified in the revised
Accreditation and Program Approval Board Agenda Item.

The motion was seconded by Joyce Karon. As all members present voted yes during the roll call vote, the motion passed approving the institutions’ programs.

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<tr>
<th>Approval of New Program Proposal Recommendations</th>
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<tr>
<td>The next item for Board discussion and action was the Approval of New Program Proposal Recommendations. Dr. Schiller stated that the program proposal recommendations were also from the State Teacher Certification Board and he concurred with their recommendations to approve the new program proposals. Dr. Steiner thus asked for a motion to approve the program proposals. Mr. Gidwitz made the following motion:</td>
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<tr>
<td>I move that the Illinois State Board of Education hereby accept the recommendations of the State Teacher Certification Board and approve the following new programs:</td>
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<tr>
<td>• School Counselor Program at Olivet Nazarene University</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Library Information Specialist Program at Olivet Nazarene University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Science Program with designations in Biology, Chemistry and Physics at Western Illinois University</td>
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<tr>
<td>• School Social Work Program at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• School Counselor Program at Quincy University.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>These approvals are granted in accordance with Section 25.145 of the State Board’s administrative rules on certification and they authorize the institutions to conduct programs and recommend candidates for certification by entitlement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The State Board of Education requests that, within one year, Olivet Nazarene University provide to the State Teacher Certification Board a report on the status of its School Counselor Program. This report should specifically include information regarding the number of faculty in the Program, the institution’s progress toward accreditation of the School</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Counselor Program by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Education Programs (CACREP), and actions taken to address the new State Board rules on school counseling programs.

The motion was seconded by Dean Clark. As there was no discussion on the agenda item, Dr. Steiner requested a roll call vote. All members present voted yes passing the motion.

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<tr>
<th>Approval of Recommended Appointments to the State Teacher Certification Board</th>
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<td>Dr. Steiner stated that the Approval of the Recommended Appointments to the State Teacher Certification Board was the next agenda item. Dr. Schiller stated that these recommendations were being made in accordance with the existing statute to appoint and/or reappoint members to the State Teacher Certification Board. He stated that the recommendations were submitted by the professional organizations representing higher education and school administrators that the recommended individuals belong to.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Steiner requested a motion to approve the recommended appoints and reappointments to the Certification Board. Dean Clark made the following motion:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pursuant to its authority under Section 21-13 of the <em>Illinois School Code</em>, and consistent with the recommendations of the named organizations, I move that the Illinois State Board of Education hereby appoint the following individuals to serve as members of the Illinois State Teacher Certification Board for a three-year term beginning July 1, 2004 and ending June 30, 2007:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representing the Illinois Federation of Teachers (IFT)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Muhammad Abdullah (First Term)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amy Alsop (First Term)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connee Fitch-Blanks (Second Term)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representing the Illinois Education Association (IEA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kay Acklin (Second Term)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denise Williams (Second Term)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representing the Illinois Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (IACTE)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deborah Curtis (First Term)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representing the Illinois Association of Regional School</td>
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Superintendents (IARSS)
David Marshall (First Term)

Ronald Gidwitz seconded the motion. As there was no discussion on the motion, Dr. Steiner requested a roll call vote. All members present voted yes. Therefore, the motion passed.

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<th>Adoption of Academic Early Warning and Academic Watch Lists Status Determinations</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Steiner announced that the next agenda item would be the Adoption of the Academic Early Warning and Academic Watch List Status Determinations. Dr. Schiller stated after a review of the data for schools that were in pending status, it was found that there were no changes in status for any school. Thus, he stated that he recommended that the Board approve the final designation lists of schools in Academic Early Warning and Academic Watch List status for the 2003-2004 school year.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Steiner then requested a motion for the approval. Joyce Karon moved that the Illinois State Board of Education adopt the updated status groups designating Academic Early Warning and Academic Watch status for the 2003-04 school year. She further moved that the State Board approve the removal of the schools from Academic Early Warning status that have met Adequate Yearly Progress requirements for two consecutive years. The motion was seconded by Dean Clark. As there was no discussion, a roll call vote was taken. The motion passed as all members present voted yes.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Approval of Special Education Mediator Contracts</th>
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<tr>
<td>The next item on the agenda was the Approval of the Special Education Mediator Contracts. Dr. Schiller stated that he recommended that the State Board approve the mediators for appointment and reappointment to serve in Fiscal Year 2005.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Steiner then requested a motion to approve the mediator contracts for Fiscal Year 2005. Dean Clark made the following motions:</td>
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<tr>
<td>I hereby move that the Illinois State Board of Education approve a contract for the mediator recommended for appointment in FY05:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willie Stewart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#2 I hereby move that the Illinois State Board of Education reappoint the following mediators whose terms of appointment expire June 30, 2004, be reappointed for an additional one-year term to be effective</td>
</tr>
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beginning on July 1, 2004 and to be issued a contract for FY05:

Andrea Becker
Brigitte Bell
Jennifer Bollero
Lynn Gaffigan
Lisa Landis Hannum
Janet Harej
Lynn Carp Jacob
Mike Kotner
William London
Michael Nathanson
Christine Pistone
Alan R. Post
Candace T. Pydo
Mike Ross
Alan G. Schuster
Karen L. Shoshana
Ratino-Vincent Epps
Paula Weinbaum
Karyn Lynne Williams

The motion was seconded by Joyce Karon.

Dr. Steiner then allowed for discussion. Ronald Gidwitz asked the following questions: 1. how does the Board determine whether or not to recommend the individuals? and 2. what is the process by which they are evaluated? Before answering the question, Chris Koch, ISBE Director of Special Education stated that he would like to introduce Sherry Colegrove, the Mediation Coordinator for ISBE as well as Dale Boyd, the ISBE Due Process Coordinator. Dr. Koch then proceeded to state that the mediators receive training annually. He stated that in 2004 ISBE contracted with an outside firm to provide the training. In addition, Dr. Koch proclaimed that each mediation is evaluated at the end of the session by each person that takes part in the mediation. If there are problems with the mediation, the information is reported to Sherry Colegrove and ISBE investigates the complaints to decide whether any further action should be taken on the part of ISBE.

Ms. Colegrove added that the training for the mediators this year would be held on June 23, 2004 by the National Center for the Consortium on the Appropriate Dispute Resolution.

Mr. Gidwitz then asked how many complaints there were in the past year concerning current mediators. Ms. Colegrove responded by stating there were two
complaints, both of which were unfounded. Mr. Gidwitz then inquired as to the nature of the complaints. Ms. Colegrove replied by stating that both parties felt that the mediators were not impartial and were not knowledgeable about what happened in each of the cases. She stated that both cases were investigated and it was found that the mediators were very knowledgeable about the special education matters and conducted themselves in an impartial manner. Mr. Gidwitz then inquired as to how often the mediators serve. Ms. Colegrove responded by stating that some mediators are more active than others. A few mediators have not had any cases. The mediators are assigned on availability and random assignment. Some mediators have had an average of 10-20 cases. According to Ms. Colegrove, there are over 200 cases a year.

As there was no further discussion, Dr. Steiner requested the roll be called to vote on the presented motion. As all members present voted yes, the motion passed approving all of the appointments and reappointments to be assigned mediator contracts for FY 05.

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<tr>
<th>Approval of Hearing Officer Contracts</th>
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Dr. Steiner stated the next item for Board discussion and action would be the Approval of the Hearing Officer Contracts. Dr. Schiller stated that he recommended the acceptance of the Due Process Screening Committee and Illinois State Advisory Council on the Education of Children with Disabilities recommendations regarding the reappointment of Hearing Officers and the appointment of the new Hearing Officers.

Dr. Steiner then requested a motion to approve the hearing officer appointments and reappointments as well as their contracts for Fiscal Year 2005. Ronald Gidwitz made the following motions:

#1 I hereby move that the Illinois State Board of Education reappoint the following hearing officers who terms of appointment expire June 30, 2005, be issued a contract for the remainder of their term effective beginning on July 1, 2004 and to be issued a contract for FY05:

- Alan Cook
- Julia Quinn Dempsey
- Vivian Gordon
- Nancy Hablutzel
- Robert Ladenson
Stacey Stuzman

#2 I hereby move that the Illinois State Board of Education reappoint the following hearing officers who terms of appointment expire June 30, 2004, be reappointed for an additional two-year term to be effective beginning on July 1, 2004 and to be issued a contract for FY05:

Katherine Black  
Marie Bracki  
Ann Breen-Greco  
Kathleen Dillon-Narko  
Gail Friedman  
Marian McElroy  
Carolyn Smaron  
James Wolter  

#3 I hereby move that the Illinois State Board of Education approve contracts for the following new hearing officers for a two-year term to be effective beginning on July 1, 2004 and to be issued a contract for FY05:

Mary Denise Cahill  
Sheana Hermann  
Venita Hervey  
Edward Koven  
Kathleen Plesko  

The motion was seconded by Dean Clark. Dr. Steiner then inquired if there was any discussion on the approval of the due process hearing officer contracts. Ronald Gidwitz inquired as to the procedure for evaluating the due process hearing officers that are currently serving. Chris Koch stated that the process for due process hearing officers is much more involved than that of the mediators. He asserted that there is a due process screening committee. He stated that each hearing officer is evaluated on a yearly basis by an outside entity that also provides training for the individuals. Dr. Koch also asserted that the due process screening committee thoroughly evaluates each of the hearing officers and decides whether or not they should be recommended for reappointment. He stated that there is now a very extensive recruitment and hiring process in place that was not in place in previous years to try to replace the pool of hearing officers.

Dr. Koch proclaimed that there were 34 applicants that were interviewed extensively. The applicants also went through a five day training before the final recommendations were made by the due process
screening committee.

Mr. Gidwitz then inquired as to how many complaints there were against the hearing officers. Dr. Koch stated that he believed there were three complaints. These complaints were thoroughly investigated as in the case of the mediators. He also asserted that each due process hearing officer is evaluated as in the case of the mediator sessions. Mr. Gidwitz asked Dr. Koch why there is such a lengthy process in comparison to the mediator process. Dr. Koch responded by stating that the requirements are by state statute. He further stated that such lengthy requirements exist because the due process hearings are expensive disputes and involve a lot of money. Placements are also at stake for special education children.

Mr. Gidwitz then asked was it safe to say that ISBE does not have involvement in the process of appointment and evaluation of the officers. Dr. Koch responded by stating that the State Superintendent makes appointments to the due process screening committee as well as the Attorney General. According to Dr. Koch, ISBE is involved in the administration of due process and is certainly accountable to many external agents in the due process arena. He stated that the process works for this reason. According to Dr. Koch, there has been a decrease in due process hearings as well as due process issues and an increase in mediation, which is an improvement as mediations are much less costly.

Dean Clark then inquired whether there was a limitation in the number of terms a hearing officer can serve. According to Ms. Colegrove, there is no limitation in statute.

Joyce Karon inquired as to whether USDoE has reviewed the ISBE process and whether ISBE is in line with their recommendations. Dr. Koch responded by stating that USDoE visited last August and audited files and looked at the system as well as interviewed staff. He stated that there was a finding related to the hearing officers. However, it was corrected and ISBE submitted the corrected information. He stated that when evaluated again, USDoE will find that ISBE has corrected the finding. Ms. Karon asked whether they monitor every
year. Dr. Koch stated that no; they audit as part of their monitoring visit looking at Illinois data and the accuracy and validity of the data in Special Education. Ms. Karon then stated that Special Education has come a long way. Dr. Koch agreed and stated that ISBE is continuing to strive to improve Special Education.

Dr. Steiner then inquired if there were any other statements or questions. Res Vazquez, Chief Legal Counsel, pointed out that although ISBE oversees the process and selection of the hearing officers, ISBE cannot intervene in the actual content of the hearings as ISBE is an impartial due process hearing entity.

Dr. Steiner then requested that the roll be called to vote on the motion. The motion carried as all members present voted yes to approve the due process hearing officer contracts.

Acceptance of Annual Evaluation of Illinois’ Due Process Procedures

The next agenda item was the Acceptance of the Annual Evaluation of Illinois’ Due Process Procedures. Dr. Schiller asserted that he would be asking the Board to accept the Annual Report as presented and authorize its distribution to the public.

Dr. Steiner then requested a motion to accept the report on the Annual Evaluation Due Process Procedures. Joyce Karon moved that the Illinois State Board of Education accept the Annual Report of Illinois' Due Process Procedures and authorize the distribution of the report. She further moved that the State Superintendent direct staff to continue with the ongoing implementation of the Illinois Due Process System. Dean Clark seconded the motion.

As there was no discussion, Dr. Steiner requested the roll be called to vote on the motion. All members present voted affirmatively. Therefore, the motion passed to accept the Annual Evaluation of Illinois’ Due Process Procedures.

In conclusion, Chris Koch proclaimed that he would like to recognize Dale Boyd, Special Education Consultant and Due Process Coordinator, who would be retiring at the end of the month, for all of his hard work and dedication in the implementation of the due process procedures.
| Authorization of Rules for Initial Review: Parts 227, 230, 525, 252, and 1300 | The Authorization of Rules for Initial Review: Parts 227, 230, 525, 252, and 1300 was the next item for Board discussion and action. Dr. Schiller stated that, upon approval from the Board, each of the rules would be going out for initial review and public comment before being officially adopted.

Dr. Steiner then asked a Board member to make a motion concerning the Rules for Initial Review. Dean Clark moved that the Illinois State Board of Education hereby authorize the solicitation of public comment on the proposed rulemaking for:

- Gifted Education (23 Illinois Administrative Code 227);
- Summer School for Gifted and Remedial Education (23 Illinois Administrative Code 230);
- Driver Education (23 Illinois Administrative Code 252);
- Regional Offices of Education and Intermediate Services (23 Illinois Administrative Code 525); and

There was no discussion on the motion. When the roll was called at the request of the Chair, the motion passed as all members present voted affirmatively to authorize the distribution of the rules for public comment. |
|---|---|
| Closed Session | Dr. Steiner then stated that the Board would have a Closed Session. She requested a motion to go into Closed Session. Dean Clark thus moved that the Illinois State Board of Education go into Closed Session under the exceptions set forth in the Open Meetings Act of the State of Illinois as follows:

- Section 2 (c) (1) for the purpose of discussing information regarding appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of an employee.
- Section 2 (c) (11) for the purpose of discussing litigation.

The motion was seconded by Joyce Karon. Dr. Steiner then requested the roll be called to vote on the motion. The motion passed as all members present voted yes. The Board went into Closed Session at 12:45 p.m. |
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<tr>
<th>Reconvening of Meeting</th>
<th>The Board concluded the Closed Session portion of the meeting at 2:25 p.m. Dr. Steiner reconvened the open session of the meeting at 2:40 p.m.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Approval of the Intergovernmental Agreement between ISBE and East St. Louis School District #189 Board of Education</td>
<td>The next item on the agenda was the Approval of the Intergovernmental Agreement between ISBE and East St. Louis School District #189 Board of Education. Dr. Steiner commenced by asking the Board if they had questions concerning the proposed agreement. Dean Clark then inquired as to what the orderly transition would be in the dissolution process. He further asked why the agreement had to become effective on that day instead of 3-5 days from that time. In response, Garrett Hoerner, General Counsel for East St. Louis stated that the agreement was made in coordination with Dr. Schiller and the transition pursuant to the agreement had already begun as members of the transition committee were selected and others were being identified and sought out. He stated that in respect to the current employees of the FOP, those persons would be transitioned immediately; their functions would remain the same (at least for the next year) as all have expressed an interest in remaining in their positions. He stated the local board would have an emergency meeting to approve the Personnel and the employees would begin as insured employees upon the date of hire. Mr. Hoerner stated that it would be a seamless transition. Mr. Clark then inquired as to whether the position descriptions that were outlined for the transition team were agreed upon by a collective bargaining agreement. Mr. Hoerner stated that the agreement was not done through a union. However, he did not speculate any problems arising with the union as the employees would remain in their positions; they would just become employees of the district. Dr. Steiner then inquired as to who would sign the checks when the process took effect. Mr. Hoerner stated that within the emergency meeting, the ESL Board would have to approve a resolution authorizing the change of signatories to present to the bank. He stated that the Board’s next meeting was scheduled for the coming Friday. However, the Board would be willing to have an emergency meeting whenever needed.</td>
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Dean Clark inquired as to whether a member of the Transition Team would be a signatory on the checks. Mr. Hoerner stated that a member would be a signatory as well as the Interim Chief Financial Officer. Dean Clark also inquired as to the timeliness of signing checks. It was affirmed that the checks would be released on time.

Dr. Steiner then asked the Board whether or not they had any further questions. As there were no further questions from the Board, Dr. Steiner asked Mr. Hoerner if he had any remaining comments. Mr. Hoerner stated that he was grateful for the opportunity to work with Dr. Schiller and the Board on the matter.

Mr. Gidwitz then expressed his concern on the immediacy of the action. He stated that he would feel much more comfortable with the agreement if there was a July 1, 2004 effective date. All Board members concurred with Mr. Gidwitz’s concern. Mr. Hoerner stated that he believed a smooth transition could happen according to the designated timeline. In addition, he asserted that the East St. Louis Board of Education would have to meet again to agree upon an effective date of July 1, 2004.

Res Vazquez, Chief Legal Counsel stated that he drafted a revised motion for the Board to consider. Ron Gidwitz then made the following motion:

I move that the Illinois State Board of Education approve the Intergovernmental Agreement, entered into between the East St. Louis School District #189 and the State Superintendent of Education, Robert E. Schiller, on behalf of the State Board of Education including but not limited to the following terms and conditions:

1. The East St. Louis School District #189 Financial Oversight Panel not be dissolved prior a July 1, 2004 effective date;

2. The State Superintendent pursue the legal actions initiated by the Financial Oversight Panel, including but not limited to the removal of any East St. Louis School District #189 board members; and.

3. The State Superintendent will continue to maintain and enforce controls and procedures implemented by the Financial Oversight Panel.

The motion was seconded by Dean Clark. As there was
no further discussion, Dr. Steiner requested a motion to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement. All members present voted yes. (Note: Richard Sandsmark was offline during the actual vote but when he returned during the Approval of the Dissolution of East St. Louis School District #189 Financial Oversight agenda item, he stated that he wished to vote yes on the agreement.)

**Approval of Dissolution of East St. Louis School District #189 Board of Education FOP**

Mr. Gidwitz then moved that the Illinois State Board of Education approve the dissolution of the East St. Louis School District #189 Financial Oversight Panel subject to the execution of an Intergovernmental Agreement entered into between the East St. Louis School District #189 Board of Education and the State Superintendent of Education, Robert E. Schiller, on behalf of the State Board of Education. Dean Clark seconded the motion and suggested that a date be inserted into the motion. Mr. Gidwitz then amended his motion by stating that the dissolution of the East St. Louis School District #189 Financial Oversight Panel should take place no sooner than July 1, 2004 and subject to the execution of the Intergovernmental Agreement entered into between the East St. Louis School District and the Illinois State Board of Education and the State Superintendent of Education.

As there was no further discussion, Dr. Steiner requested a roll call vote. The motion passed as all members present voted affirmatively.

**Acceptance of ISBE Monthly Reports**

Dr. Steiner asserted that the last agenda item would be the Acceptance of the ISBE Monthly Reports. Dr. Schiller stated that the monthly reports were sent to the Board previously and he would be willing to address any questions or concerns. Joyce Karon expressed her concern with the declining number of personnel. Dr. Schiller stated that the number was lower than what was actually reflected.

Dr. Steiner then requested a motion to accept the reports. Dean Clark moved that the Illinois State Board of Education accept the financial, agency operations, and budget status reports presented during the June 2004 meeting. The motion was seconded by Richard Sandsmark. All members present voted yes on the motion, passing it unanimously.
**Announcements and Reports**

**Board Chair**

Dr. Steiner then proclaimed that there were several announcements and reports.

Dr. Steiner stated that she would like to thank the East St. Louis Financial Oversight Panel. She asserted that since its institution in the fall of 1994, the East St. Louis FOP has taken the great responsibility of assuming control of the East St. Louis District #189 finances. Dr. Steiner then proclaimed that she would like to thank the panel for their tremendous efforts in assisting East St. Louis with their financial operations and management. In conclusion, she read the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the East St. Louis Financial Oversight Panel (FOP) was established in East St. Louis School District #189 on October 20, 2004 pursuant to Article 1B of the Illinois School Code (105 ILCS 5/1B-1) as the District was certified as being in Financial Difficulty on December 15, 1988; and

WHEREAS, the FOP was created to provide a sound financial structure, provide for emergency State financial assistance, and establish a secure financial basis for the District’s continued existence; and

WHEREAS, when the Panel assumed control of the District’s finances, the District had operating deficits for the prior three years and had a negative $5 million fund balance; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Financial Oversight Panel are Richard Mark, Chairman; Ann Duncan (who replaced Robert Oaks when he resigned in December of 1999); and Saundra Hudson; and

WHEREAS, through the efforts of the Panel to enhance revenues and achieve cost efficiency, the District has been able to maintain levels of operating cost per pupil while maintaining an operating surplus with a $20 million reserve; and

WHEREAS, the East St. Louis School District has made tremendous financial improvements since the institution of the FOP; and

WHEREAS, due to the assistance and guidance of the FOP, the District was saved from financial “insolvency” and is one of the few Districts that have achieved “financial recognition” status under the new financial assurance and accountability system; and

WHEREAS, the District’s “financial recognition” status was achieved through the Panel’s insistence on the establishment of good operating policies and procedures that cover procurement, risk management, accounting and financial record maintenance, financial planning and budgeting, vendor accountability, and technology management;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Illinois State Board of Education and the State Superintendent of Education extend its grateful appreciation to
the East St. Louis Financial Oversight Panel for their hard work and
dedication to the East St. Louis children, its schools, and entire community.

Dr. Steiner then presented the framed resolution to
Richard Mark, Chairman of the East St. Louis Financial
Oversight Panel. In response, Mr. Mark thanked the
Board and Superintendent for their support in assisting
East St. Louis with their financial management. Mr.
Gidwitz then thanked Mr. Mark and the other panel
members for their tremendous work in East St. Louis. Mr.
Gidwitz then also thanked the Superintendent for nicely
negotiating the agreement with East St. Louis as the
Board had a concern for some time about guidance in
East St. Louis after the original dissolution date of
September 30, 2004. He stated that hopefully with the
Transition Team in place, the district would begin to
experience not only financial successes but educational
ones as well. Dr. Steiner concurred and stated that Mr.
Gidwitz spoke on behalf of the entire Board.

In conclusion, Dr. Schiller stated that the work done by
Richard Mark and the panel has been well documented.
However, what had not been well documented were the
extra hours spent working on behalf of the district to help
the district financially and the children achieve at a higher
level. He stated that it is his hope that the Transition
Team will be able to adequately assist the district in
transiting into effective independent governance.

Dr. Schiller then stated that he had several additional
announcements and reports to share. In commencing, he
stated that the agency just received a letter from the
Governor advancing the 23rd and 24th General State Aid
(GSA) payments to school districts. He then read a letter
from the Governor affirming the payment to the districts.

Secondly, he stated that he would be appearing before
the Illinois House Elementary and Secondary Committee
to identify funding needed for the agency’s core services
and what must be funded by July 1, 2004 along with the
level of funding that would be needed. At that point, Dr.
Schiller shared with the Board some of the details that
would be presented to the House Committee on the
following day. Dave McDermott and Tim Imler also
shared some of the budget details with the Board as they
worked to gather the information needed for the hearing.
Dr. Schiller stated that maintaining core services with a no-growth or flat budget was fallacy. He then inquired as to whether the Board members had another approach they wished to take. Joyce Karon stated that she did not but would like to inquire as to the number of school districts who consolidated. Mr. McDermott stated that approximately 8-12 school districts consolidated into 6 or annexed into 6.

Other Board members agreed with Dr. Schiller’s and the staff’s approach as well. Chair Steiner then inquired as to whether the agency was “volunteering” to make additional cuts in funding. Dr. Schiller stated that this was not the agency’s intent. Dean Clark further stated that it is important for the Governor and legislators to understand that it is not okay to hold on making a decision on the education budget because school does not start until September. Dr. Schiller concurred and stated that staff has been working overtime to show the cash flow need that districts have in order to maintain their operations.

Mr. Gidwitz then inquired as to whether inflation was considered. Dr. Schiller and Mr. McDermott affirmed that inflation had been built into the proposed budget. Joyce Karon then reemphasized the need for a final budget as districts are in their planning stages and need to know what resources they will have in place for the upcoming school year, especially in the face of growing enrollment.

Dr. Schiller requested Peter Leonis, Director of Governmental Relations to discuss the flow of the committees that were held on that day. Mr. Leonis stated that the Superintendent and staff were “on the right track” in terms of their method of presentation. He further asserted that the other agencies provided a brief overview of their core services. A deadline was set for Monday for each agency to bring forth a budget, in light of the possibly of having to cut 3% from their budgets. According to Mr. Leonis, there were no parameters set for the budget. He stated that the legislators were trying to “get a feel for” what will happen and what will be affected if there is not a budget July 1.
After a brief discussion of the budget presentation, Dr. Schiller presented a list of the ISBE Accomplishments from 2002-2004. (Please see attachment). He stated that the list of accomplishments speaks very highly to the Board’s work during their tenure. Due to lack of time, the Superintendent stated he was unable to read each of the accomplishments but wanted to present them to the Board for their recognition.

As a part of the Chair report, Dr. Steiner recognized the Illinois Theatre Festival by reading the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Illinois High School Theatre began work in the winter of 1975 to create a state-wide Festival event where students and teachers of theatre could share theatrical endeavors as well as learn more about the art; and

WHEREAS, the Illinois High School Theatre sought to involve a great many students from many different kinds of theatre programs from around the state in a non-competitive atmosphere; and

WHEREAS, everyone involved in the planning of this festival volunteers his or her time and energy because he or she feels that this Festival brings the students of Illinois a critical experience in the art of theatre; and

WHEREAS, this Festival is the largest high school theatre festival anywhere, and every year about one-fourth of the high schools in the state participate in the festival; and

WHEREAS, the 2005 Festival to be held on January 6, 7, and 8 is the 30th annual, having grown from 1,435 participants in 1976 to 3,886 participants in January 2003 at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; and

WHEREAS, this Festival is sponsored by the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Illinois State University, the Illinois Theatre Association, and the Illinois State Board of Education;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Illinois State Board of Education recognizes the Illinois High School Theatre Festival as a very valuable and rewarding educational experience for students and teachers of theatre across the State of Illinois.

She then asserted that she had hoped that Beverly Turkal would have been present to accept the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Beverly Turkal was appointed to the Illinois State Board of Education by Governor George Ryan February 16, 2001; and

WHEREAS, Beverly, better known as “Bev”, brought a wealth of knowledge to the Board from her broad educational experiences as a teacher
in the Chicago suburbs and in her home area of Southeastern Illinois; and

WHEREAS, Bev provided extensive insight and guidance from her experience as a principal, special education coordinator, director of building and grounds, and superintendent throughout her career in Robinson, Olney, and Brussels, Illinois; and

WHEREAS, Bev also served as a student teacher coordinator for Eastern Illinois University and worked for a private superintendent search and consulting firm; and

WHEREAS, Bev is an active member of many professional and community organizations as she is involved in the local Chamber of Commerce, Economic Development Board, and Hospital Foundation; and

WHEREAS, before her appointment to the State Board, Bev served on the Illinois Eastern Community College Board; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her responsibilities as Vice-Chair on the Illinois State Board of Education, Bev served as Chair of the Board Governmental Relations Committee and was a member of the Finance and Audit Committee; and

WHEREAS, Bev was a faithful member of the Board of Education offering her expertise and level-headed advice in the forming and institution of many important Board policy decisions; and

WHEREAS, Bev’s foremost goal in her role as an educator and as a board member was to ensure that all students – regardless of their zip code – receive equitable resources and access to a quality education in Illinois; and

WHEREAS, Bev’s insight and caring nature will be truly missed by the State Board and ISBE staff;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Illinois State Board of Education and the State Superintendent of Education that we appreciate Bev’s dedication to advocating on behalf of all the children in Illinois and wish her great health and happiness serving the schools and children in her hometown of Robinson, Illinois.

Dr. Steiner stated that Beverly Turkal was the Chair of the Governmental Relations Committee and the Vice-Chair of the Board. She proclaimed that she was appointing Dean Clark to be Chair of the Governmental Relations Committee. She then stated that she needed a nomination from a Board member for the Vice-Chair position. Dean Clark then moved that Joyce Karon be elected to the Vice-Chair position. His motion was seconded by Ronald Gidwitz. All members present voted yes making Joyce Karon the new Vice-Chair of the Board.

Adjourn

Dr. Steiner then stated that the Board would adjourn to go into Executive Session and there would be no action
items after the Executive Session. The meeting therefore adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Please contact the Illinois State Board of Education office in Springfield at 217/782-7497 for an audio tape of the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Richard Sandsmark
Secretary

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Dr. Janet Steiner
Chair